

Calculated of Expected Policy and Implementation Returns

Assumptions

- ARS is 2.5% of the total fund for all three implementation portfolios
- ARS beta to global equity = 0.20
- ARS beta to cash = 0.80
- All asset class returns are equal to the policy (benchmark) returns presented at the November 2010 ALM Workshop.
 - Forecasts were not presented for cash or for the ARS program
- Assumed annual compound returns:
 - Cash = 2.75%
 - ARS = cash + 3.5% = 6.25%
 - Global equity = 7.75%
- The equitization in the B implementation portfolio increases the exposure to global equity by 2% of the total fund.
 - The equitization is long equity futures with notional value equal to the ARS cash beta times the ARS market value
B equitization notional = ARS cash beta * ARS market value
= 0.80 * 2.5% of total fund
= 2.0% of total fund

POLICY RETURN

Historical and expected ARS returns

Since inception through June 30, 2011, ARS has outperformed cash by 3.5% (5.66% vs. 1.96%, ARS Program Update, 8-15-11, p.18). This is an excellent return, outperforming other hedge funds by 1.43% annually (5.66 vs. 4.03%, ARS Program Update, IC 8-15-11, p.18). In this memo, ARS is assumed to continue to outperform cash by 3.5% per year.

Policy (benchmark) portfolio returns

A policy return

The policy portfolio A was approved by the Investment Committee in December (portfolio A7 with policy weights rounded to whole percentages). Its expected return of 7.38% was unaffected by ARS since ARS had a zero policy allocation.

B policy return

Policy portfolios A and B are identical and thus have the same expected returns.

C policy return

Policy portfolio C is the same as the other policy portfolios except that ARS has a 2.5% policy weight funded via an equal reduction in the global equity allocation.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Change in total fund return} &= (\text{ARS return} - \text{equity return}) * \text{ARS policy wt.} \\
&= [(\text{cash return} + 3.5\%) - 7.75\%] * 2.5\% \\
&= [(2.75\% + 3.5\%) - 7.75\%] * 2.5\% \\
&= (6.25\% - 7.75\%) * 2.5\% \\
&= .04\% = 4 \text{ basis points}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Hence the portfolio C policy return} &= \text{A policy return} - 4 \text{ bp} \\
&= 7.38\% - .04\% = 7.34\%
\end{aligned}$$

Assuming that ARS outperforms cash by 3.5% annually as it has historically, then adopting a 2.5% policy allocation to RMARS funded from global equity decreases the expected return of the total fund policy portfolio by 4 basis points.

Implementation portfolio returns

C implementation portfolio return

The implementation portfolio C is the same as its policy portfolio, so it has the same expected return (7.34%).

A implementation portfolio return

Implementation portfolios A and C are the same, so they have the same expected returns (7.34%).

B implementation portfolio return

Implementation portfolio B differs from its policy portfolio in the following:

- i) Global equity securities portfolio is reduced by 2.5% in B
The change in total fund return = change in equity weight * equity return
 $= -2.5\% * 7.75\% = -0.00194\% = -19.4 \text{ bp}$
- ii) Equitization position goes from zero to 2.0%
The expected return on the equitization (long equity futures) is the equity return less the cash return
Change in total fund return = change in equitiz. wt. * equitiz. return
 $= 2.0\% * (7.75\% - 2.75\%)$
 $= 0.0010\% = +10.0 \text{ bp}$
- iii) ARS position goes from zero to 2.5%
The change in total fund return = change in ARS wt. * ARS return
 $= \text{chg. in ARS wt.} * (\text{ARS return premium} + \text{cash rtn.})$
 $= 2.5\% * (3.50\% + 2.75\%)$
 $= 0.00156\% = 15.6 \text{ bp}$

The sum of these three effects is (-19.4 bp) + (10.0 bp) + (15.6 bp), or + 6.2 bp.
The policy portfolio return of P2 plus 6.2 bp is 7.44% (7.38% + 0.06%).

As a check, the expected return of the equitization is the difference in the expected returns of equity and cash.¹

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Equitization return} &= \text{equity return} - \text{cash return} \\ &= 7.75\% - 2.75\% \\ &= 5.0\%\end{aligned}$$

The portfolio B equitization position is 2.0% of the total fund, so it is expected to increase total fund portfolio return by 10 basis points.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Effect of equitization on total fund return} &= \text{equitization return} * \text{equitization weighting} \\ &= 5.0\% * 2.0\% \\ &= 0.1\% = 10 \text{ basis points}\end{aligned}$$

¹ It is assumed that futures margin is satisfied with existing cash reserves, such as cash in the Liquidity asset class (that no additional cash is raised as a result of the equitization).